GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS. Sectt. II-28—0,006—12-6-53.

PW (1953) Department.

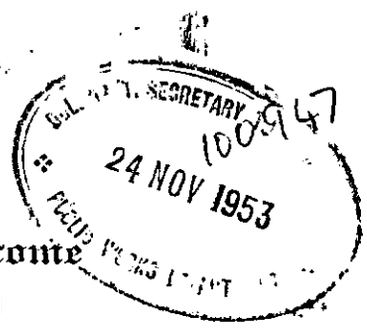
~~Endorsement~~
~~D.O.~~ U.O.Mc
~~Memorandum~~
~~Lodged~~

No. 100967 F/53-1

Dated 10-12-1953.

FURTHER PAPERS.

Department.	Number.	Series.	Date.



Address of Welcome

PRESENTED TO

The Hon'ble Sri. C. Rajagopalachari

CHIEF MINISTER OF MADRAS

By

THE KANARA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MANGALORE.

Sir,

It is our proud privilege to extend to you our most cordial welcome on this memorable occasion of your visit to Mangalore. Your long, magnificent contribution in our Struggle for Independence and your signal service in the consolidation of our Nation after the attainment of Independence have all been a matter of great pride to all of us. After the last General Elections, when there were grave doubts regarding the formation of a stable Government in the Madras State, you were pressed and persuaded to emerge from your retirement to resume the leadership of the Congress Party in the Legislature. With your magic personality and masterly Statecraft and with the energy and drive of a much younger man, you have not only been able to form a stable Government for the State, but also to steer it from success to success.

The success of the State Government in the bold and well-timed policy of decontrol of food-stuffs; championing the cause of the Handloom Industry in its struggle for survival; the heavy over-subscription of the recently floated State-Loan; and the peaceful and efficient partition of the Madras State and the formation of Andhra State; all bear the impress of your magic touch and have created in us a feeling of complete confidence in the State Government.

It is a matter of immense gratification and great rejoicing to us that you are now amongst us to learn at first hand our minimum necessities and requirements. You must have been well posted with our requirements that they may not need repetition, but just to emphasise their urgency, we submit some of our necessities and requirements for your consideration.

SALES TAX: Sales Tax as a measure of taxation in India emanated from your erudite and fecund conception as River Ganga flowed from the Crown of Lord Shiva. Its flow, temperate and beneficial at first, has now assumed the proportion of a flood which threatens to engulf and swamp both the commercial community and the consumers alike. It even assumed the mythical avatar of Kamadhenu to one of our previous illustrious Finance Ministers. But, as our recent Address to the Finance Minister, pointed out, there is a general feeling that Multiple-point Sales Tax has reached such degree of saturation that it can only yield diminishing returns. There is a popular persistent demand for converting the Multiple point Sales Tax into Single point Taxation and the recent Statement of the Finance Minister at Coimbatore that this much desired reform will be introduced as an experimental measure as regards certain commodities has been widely welcomed. If, however, the Multiple-point taxation has to be retained, there is a general demand for a substantial reduction in rates in view of the falling prices and the low purchasing power of the masses. Exemptions of food-stuffs from the liability to Sales Tax is another matter requiring sympathetic consideration. In the matter of administration of this taxation, adopting the accounting year of the assessees as the "previous year" instead of the financial year as a measure of convenience to the assessees and the exemption of containers from liability to tax in the sale of exempted articles like Salt, are some of the reforms in popular demand.

The recent decision of the Supreme Court in the matter of interpretation of Article 286 of the Constitution in the Bombay and Travancore Cochin Sales Tax Cases has created a sense of suspense and anxiety in the Import, Export and Inter-State trade. In this connection, the attempts of the Committee

100947

of Finance Officials of the Centre and States, sitting currently, to bring about uniformity and rationalization of existing anomalies in the levy and collection of Sales Tax are being very keenly watched. We feel sure, that an early decision of the Government in this matter, will go a long way in allaying the suspense and removing the hindrance to the free flow of export, import and inter-state trade. It is also our submission that whatever decisions may be arrived at, no retroactivity should be given to those decisions.

PORT TRUST FOR MANGALORE: We have to express our grateful thanks for your smooth steering of the Mangalore Port Trust Bill through both the houses of the State Legislature. Although the Act has received the assent of the President of India, the necessary notification for the constitution of the Port Trust at Mangalore has not been issued and it is requested that necessary instructions be issued for the early establishment of the Port Trust at Mangalore.

CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES: Our District is notoriously lacking in good roads and essential bridges and we have been pressing for a long time the construction of bridges over Pavanje, Mulky and Udiavar Rivers on the thickly populated Coastal belt of the district, connecting Mangalore by the shortest route to Udipi. During the recent visit of the Finance Minister, some of the Banking and other Institutions of this District came forward with an offer of a loan of Rs. 25 lakhs to meet the cost of construction of these bridges, to be spread over a period of four to five years. The Finance Minister promised to place the offer before you for your consideration and we are eagerly looking forward to a very favourable consideration of the offer.

IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HEAD-QUARTERS HOSPITAL: It is a matter of great pride to us that the local enterprise has succeeded in starting the Kasturba Medical College in this District on Co-operative basis without any financial help from the Government. But this standing monument of private enterprise needs fostering and nursing by the Government in the shape of providing clinical facilities to the students of the College. It is our earnest request that the Headquarters Hospital, now under re-construction at Mangalore, should be suitably enlarged, equipped and staffed to provide efficient clinical training to the students of the College.

These are only some of our requirements and you will excuse us for this long recital of our grievances and needs and we take solace in the fact that you will give them your earnest consideration.

Before concluding, we would be failing in our Duty if we do not extend our greetings to the Hon'ble Ministers who are accompanying you on this memorable visit of yours to this Chamber. Hon'ble Sri K. P. Kuttikrishnan Nair, Minister for Law, is the distinguished son of neighbouring Kerala District and Hon'ble Sri A. B. Shetty is the finest son of this District and their contributions to the State and respective Districts are considerable. We offer you, Sirs, our most hearty welcome.

In conclusion, please permit us to express our heartfelt thanks for sparing time and for graciously coming here this morning and consenting to receive this Address. We all pray to Almighty God to bless you with health, energy and a long life to guide the destinies of our Country.

We remain,
Sir,
Yours faithfully,

THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS
OF
THE KANARA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Mangalore,
23—11—1953.

PWD(R)

U.O. note. No. 100947F/53-1 dt 10-12-53.

Address of Welcome presented to C.M. by Kanara Chamber of Commerce, Mangalore on 23.11.53.

Relevant extracts from the Welcome Address cited may be sent to Revenue and HELA Depts. for such action as might be considered necessary.

9.12.53

'K' in ppl-2 cf

'H' in P2 cf

to Rev. Dept with a copy of 'K' in ppl-2 cf.

DMS 11/53

to the HELA Dept. with a copy of 'H' on P2 cf.

P.M 7.12.53

Con.100947 F/53

pp 1-2 cf.

Address of Welcome presented to Hon. Sri. C. Rajagopalachari, Chief Minister of Madras by the Kanara Chamber of Commerce, Mangalore on 23.11.53.

Please see the Address read above. This Deptt. is concerned with 'S' and 'R' on p2 cf.

'S' on p2 cf: Law Deptt. have already taken necessary action to publish the Mangalore Port Trust Act, 1953 in the Fort St. George gazette. Action to bring the Act into force will be taken after its publication. No action is therefore called for on their request.

'K' on pp 1-2, and 'M' on p2 cf: Rev. and H&LA Depts are respectively concerned with these requests. Copy of the relevant extracts may be sent to those Depts. for such action as might be considered necessary. Draft U.O. note below is for approval.

Draft 'A' Section
Ref. 'R' on p2 cf.

DRS 7/12/53

7/12/53

R on p2 CF: Construction of bridges over Pavanje, Mulky and Udiavar: These bridge works are not included in the recent five year Plan of P.W.R.D. The estimated cost of constructing the Udiyavar bridge ~~was~~ is Rs 14 lakhs. The cost of other two works is likely in the neighbourhood of Rs 10 lakhs each. With reference to the representations made by the President, South Kanara District Board and the Kanara Chamber of Commerce, the question of constructing bridges across these three rivers was examined

U/o not put up

by the Govt. It was decided that these bridge works, which are not included in the plan, must wait and that all or some of them might be included in the next list of schemes to be financed from the C.R.F. allocations. The C.E(H) was asked to consider preparing the inclusion of these works in the next list of schemes to be financed from the C.R.F. This list of works is awaited from the C.E.

No official communication has so far been received from any Banking institutions in S. Kanara in regard to the offer of loan of Rs 25 lakhs for the construction of these bridges.

9/12/53

9.12.53

9/12/53